**AP World History Summer HW:**

**Vocabulary Knowledge**

*In order to read and think critically like a historian at the beginning of the school year, it is imperative for students to know and understand many essential historical terms and concepts. Students should review and study the following world history terms in preparation for a vocabulary quiz on the first day of class. Students will be asked to match, fill-in-the-blank, and write out the definitions of the following terms in order to demonstrate their proficiency. There will be NO retakes nor make-ups.*

**Please note! The following definitions come from the text *World History: The Basics* by Professor Peter N. Stearns, one of the leading world historians in the United States. When reviewing and studying these definitions, do not forget to think like a historian by analyzing and evaluating this source and, as a result, each of the definitions.**

Abolitionism: movement or doctrine advocating the abolition (elimination) of slavery

Agricultural Revolution: development of raising crops and animals as the major food source among human communities, replacing hunting and gathering

Aristocracy: nobility; ruling class based on heredity and privilege

Artisan: craftsperson; skilled worker practicing a specific trade or craft

Authoritarian: system of leadership based on absolute obedience to a single ruler

BCE: before the Common Era

Biological exchange: process of plants, animals, and often diseases being transferred from one region or society to another

Bronze Age: period from 4000 - 1500 BCE; characterized by production of bronze tools and weapons

Buddhism: religion, practiced primarily in Asia, based on the teachings and doctrine of Buddha, in particular the notion that human suffering will end with the cessation (end) of desires

Bureaucracy: system of nonelected government officials

Caliphate: a leader of an Islamic jurisdiction; also the political system in the Middle East-North Africa in the postclassical period (Period 3)

Capitalism: economic system based on private ownership, profit motive, and free trade

Caste system: social structure in which social class and status are defined primarily by heredity

CE: the Common Era

Christianity: religion based on the teachings of Jesus and the belief that Jesus was the son of God

Chronology: understanding based on the arrangement of events in time and the close study of dates

Civilization: a complex form of human organization; a society defined by shared values and institutions

Class structure: the organization of unequal social strata within a particular society

Classical: period from 1000 BCE - 500 CE characterized by expansion of key civilizations, integration of regional territory, and increase in regular interregional trade

Climate zone: geographical region sharing a particular climate

Cold War: period of political hostility between the Soviet Union (USSR) and its satellite states, and Western societies, particularly the United States, extending from 1945-1991

Colonialism: control of one country or society by another from afar; often implies exploitation of the smaller or less powerful country by the larger one

Columbian Exchange: far-reaching transfer of plants, animals, humans, diseases, and cultural phenomena between the Eastern and Western hemispheres

Commercial agriculture: production of agricultural goods for sale

Commercialism: outlook in which commerce, business, and trade take priority

Communism: system of social organization based on Marxist theories advocating the elimination of private property in favor of collective ownership

Confucianism: philosophy based on the teachings of Confucius, placing high value on devotion to family and ancestors, charitable outlook on humanity, education, and political order

Consumerism: movement toward or value placed on increased consumption of goods

Constitution: fundamental law, set of laws or doctrine defining a government

Contemporary: period from 1914 on including rebalancing of world power/decolonization, population explosion, globalization, replacement of agricultural institutions

Continuity: uninterrupted pattern, something that goes on or repeats without essential change

Core society: in world economy theory, a society exporting processed goods, profiting disproportionately from global trade

Crusades: religious military campaigns waged by European Christians in the Middle East between 1095 and 1291

Culture: basic beliefs and assumptions, often also expressed in the arts

Decolonization: eliminating colonialism; freeing a colony from dependent status

Democracy: a government carried out by the people or representatives they have elected

Demography: the characteristics of a human population, or the study of those characteristics

Diplomacy: the practice of international relations; the development of relationships among different governments

Discipline: branch of knowledge or field of study

Dynasty: a succession of rulers from one family; the period of time defined by leadership of one such succession

Early Modern Period: 1450-1750, rise of global trade, inclusion of the Americas, gunpowder empires

Economy: system of production, distribution, and consumption of goods and/or services in a particular society or group of societies

Emancipation: the act of freeing a person or group of people from the control of another

Empire: the domain ruled by an emperor or empress, often characterized by absolute power or authoritarian rule; sometimes involves territorial expansion

Environmentalism: concern with protecting the natural environment from pollution and other destructive forces

Epidemic: widespread outbreak of infectious disease

Evolution: genetic changes or developments in populations or societies over a period of time

Exchange: trade or transfer of goods, services, and diseases within or among populations, cultures, or societies

Expansion: the process of a territory or state growing, sometimes involving conquering another state; also refers to economic growth or recovery

Fascism: political theory advocating authoritarian and often totalitarian rule, hierarchical government system

Feminism: doctrine and political/social movements advocating equal rights for women

Feudalism: social and political system in post-classical Europe and Japan, based on land ownership by a ruling military class and relationships with vassals (servants)

Global economy: interrelated and interdependent economies of the world

Globalization: the process of transforming local phenomena into global ones and intensifying interregional contacts

Government: organization or administration that is in charge of a political unit

Guerilla warfare: military initiatives taken on by individuals or organizations operating independently from a government

Gunpowder Empire: empires, both land-based and overseas, in the early modern period based on use of guns

Heredity: inheritance of title, office, or right

Hinduism: religion and philosophy predominant in the Indian subcontinent and some other parts of South Asia; characterized by beliefs in reincarnation, dharma, and a divine order that takes on various natures and forms

Hunter gatherer: society characterized by obtaining food via hunting and foraging; earliest form of human society

Immigration: migration into a new country or society

Imperialism: policy of extending rule or authority over another country or region

Individualism: philosophy or way of life advocating the primacy of the individual, individual rights and desires

Industrial Age: long nineteenth century plus contemporary period

Industrial Revolution: transformation from agriculturally to industrially based societies

Infanticide: practice of killing newborn infants

Internationalism: international in character or discipline; doctrine advocating that nations should cooperate

Interwar years: the years between 1918 and 1939

Iron Age: 1500 BCE through 1450 CE, encompassing the Classical and post-classical periods; but in some ways continues to the present

Islam: monotheistic religion predominant in North Africa and the Middle East and other parts of Asia and Africa, characterized by the belief in the teachings of the prophet Muhammad and the worship of Allah

Judaism: monotheistic religion based on the teachings of the Torah and Talmud

Kingdom: political or territorial unit ruled by a monarch or other sovereign

Kinship system: system of social relationships and often family characterizing a particular society

Laissez-faire: the notion that government should not interfere in individual affairs; doctrine advocating individualism, particularly in the economic realm

Leisure: time spent away from work

Local: relating to a particular place, city, or town

Long nineteenth century: period from 1750-1914, characterized by Industrial Revolution, rise of Western power and imperialism, greater global economic inequality, emancipations

Marxism: theory based on the teachings of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, advocating the notion that all human behaviors and social developments have their basis in economics, and class struggle plays a central role in development

Merchant: businessperson engaged in buying and/or selling of goods

Migration: movement of people from one country or world region to another

Military: of or relating to warfare; system developed within a society for carrying out warfare

Missionary: a person, religion, or philosophy aiming to convert others to a particular cause or belief system

Modern: usually assigned to periods since around 1700

Modernization: belief that various changes are linked in political function, education and technology; and that societies will change in similar directions

Monarchy: government run by a single leader (monarch) who may claim absolute rule; usually an inherited system of authority

Nation: group of people politically organized under a single government with explicit geographical boundaries, often claiming a distinctive culture and cultural coherence

Nation-state: political unit comprised of an autonomous state, populated by people who tend to share common culture and history

Nationalism: devotion to the interests and development of one’s nation; often includes belief in the supremacy of one’s nation over others

Neolithic Period (new Stone Age): period from about 8000 BCE to 4000 BCE, characterized by the Agricultural Revolution and rise of patriarchy

“New global” historians: historians arguing that recent globalization creates a dramatically novel historical context

“New nations” theory: idea that newly independent nations are often politically unstable because of internal conflicts, lack of experienced leadership, and economic setbacks

Nomad: person or group of people with no defined home or territory; roaming lifestyle pattern, usually in a herding economy

Nongovernmental organization: organization characteristic of the contemporary period, operating independently of government and often without the goal of profit

Orthodox Christianity: form of Christianity prevalent in the Byzantine Empire, the Balkans and Russia; rift with Roman Catholicism in the 11th century

Parliament: legislative assembly participating in the government of a country and sometimes characterizing the governmental system

Patriarchy: system of social and/or familial organization based on the supremacy and centrality of the father or other males

Peasant: member of a social class comprised of farmers usually tightly tied to village structures

Periodization: the system historians use to define change and a resultant coherent set of trends, dividing chronology into periods

Peripheral society: in world economy theory, a society that exports cheap goods with exploited labor

Political structure: system of government characterizing a specific region

Post-classical: period from 600-1450 CE, characterized by spread of civilizations and world religions, rise of wider trans-regional trade networks, expansion of regional influences and imitations

Public health: science of and policy relating to preventing and curing disease and promoting health on a broad scale, societal and international level

Race: characterization of people based on inherited ethnic characteristics, often associated with skin color

Regime: political organization governing a society; government and rulers

Regional: characteristic of a specific place or geographical area

Religion: system of beliefs and rituals focused on ethics, a divine order, and the afterlife

Renaissance: period of European history from the fourteenth through mid-sixteenth century, defined particularly by new artistic styles

Revolution: drastic and far-reaching change, can be used to refer to either political or social changes of great magnitude; a revolution can also mean a violent uprising from below that seeks to alter political and social structures

River-valley civilizations: early civilizations that developed along river banks, as in Egypt or Mesopotamia, primarily because of ease of irrigation and therefore agriculture

Science: systematic set of knowledge usually based on facts, truths or ideas that can be proven; usually focused on the workings of nature

Secular: not related to religion nor spirituality

Settler societies: societies formed mainly by European settlers, as in the United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand

Silk Roads: widely used trade routes established in the classical period, from China to the Middle East and Mediterranean

Slavery: bondage; human labor owned and controlled by other people usually without pay and sometimes characterized by inhumane treatment

Socialism: political theory calling for collective ownership of industry and government control over resources and services

Society: enduring social group whose members have organized patterns of interaction through trade, culture, and/or politics

State: nation (or other political unit) or organized government

Syncretism: process in which beliefs or practices blend features from different groups or societies in contact

Technology: practical application of science to industry, knowledge, or daily life

Terrorism: use of violence against individuals or a society for the achievement of religious or political goals

Third World: initially, countries like Egypt or India, not aligned with either side in the Cold War; came to mean poorer, economically developing regions

Topography: shape or features of an area of the Earth’s surface

Trade: commercial exchange of goods and/or services

Tradition: long-standing custom; inherited pattern of thought or behavior

Trans-regional: comprising or relating to two or more regions and/or their relationships

Tribe: a social division or group of people, sometimes a family, who live or travel together

United Nations: political organization formed from a group of independent states in 1945 with the goal of promoting international peace and security

Urban: relating to a city or other area of a dense population

Westernization: assimilation of or conversion to Western culture, values, and belief systems

World economy theory: focuses on unequal trade relations from the early modern period onward, and their long-term economic, political, and social results

World war: a war involving most of the major nations of the world

Writing system: method for representing spoken language orthographically, using letters, signs, or symbols

Zoroastrianism: system of religion founded in Persia in the sixth century BCE, based on the notion of struggle between good and evil